Dear Colleagues and Friends of the FAIR Project,

We have the pleasure to inform you that the initialling of the FAIR Founding Documents took place on August 27, 2010 in Berlin. The following countries have initialled the Final Act (in alphabetical order):

Finland  Petteri Kauppinen
France    Laurence Piketty
Germany   Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph
India     A. K. Sood
Poland    Agnieszka Ratajczak
Romania   Ionel Andrei
Russia    Oleg Patarakin
Slovenia  Urška Klopčič
Spain     Esther Martín Malagón
Sweden    Mats Johnsson

The commemorative speeches by Mr. Viktor Elbling, Director-General for Economic Affairs and Sustainable Development of the German Federal Foreign Office, and State Secretary, Dr. Georg Schütte, created a festive ambience.
The next step will be the signing of the Convention by the representatives of the ministries and the FAIR member countries. This will take place at Schloss Biebrich in Wiesbaden on Monday, October 4, 2010. Right after the signing ceremony the FAIR GmbH will be founded, marking the start for a bright future with the FAIR project.

The last AFI and ISC Meetings in Berlin on Tuesday, August 24, 2010 were followed by the two-day Cross-Checking Conference. We all experienced a tightly-run and well-organized conference by both Chairpersons, Dr. Beatrix Vierkorn-Rudolph and Mr. Jakob Ritter von Wagner. The conference was characterized by the concentrated collaboration and favourable attitude of all delegates. This was also due to the excellent preparation of the Federal Foreign Office’s Translation Department. We would therefore like to express our special thanks to all Federal Foreign Office staff who rendered us their assistance.

We are looking forward to an exciting future with FAIR!

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